

irradiation induces p53 expression in *in vivo* normal human skin that returns to undetectable basal level within 15 d [20]. As psoriatic patients often undergo psoralen plus ultraviolet A therapy, we wonder whether this could explain why p53 expression can be detected in some instances. It should be kept in mind that detection of the p53 protein does not necessarily indicate the existence of a mutation of the gene but can also come from a dysregulation of its expression.

In conclusion, the TP53 gene was not altered in the seven exons analyzed, and TP53 gene product was not detected, in psoriatic skin. Dysregulation of the cell-cycle process in this disease might come from other genes, such as still unstudied tumor-suppressor genes or oncogenes; we recently demonstrated a decrease in *c-FOS* expression in lesional psoriatic skin [21]. More studies are required to understand the possible involvement of oncogene and/or tumor suppressor genes in psoriasis.

This work was supported by ARC grant # 6708 and INSERM grant # 910203. Jean-Pierre Molès was recipient of a predoctoral fellowship under the Association pour la Recherche contre le Cancer grant # CG91.

REFERENCES

1. Van Scott J, Ekel TM: Kinetics of hyperplasia in psoriasis. *Arch Dermatol* 88:373–381, 1963
2. Weinstein GD, McCullough JL, Ross PA: Cell kinetic basis for pathophysiology of psoriasis. *J Invest Dermatol* 85:579–583, 1985
3. Weiss RA, Eichner R, Sun TT: Monoclonal antibodies analysis of keratin expression in epidermal diseases: a 48 and 56 kilodalton keratin as molecular markers for hyperproliferative keratinocytes. *J Cell Biol* 98:1397–1406, 1984
4. Bernard BA, Asselineau D, Schaffar-Deshayes L, Darmon MY: Abnormal sequence of expression markers in psoriatic epidermis: inversion of two steps in the differentiation programme? *J Invest Dermatol* 90:801–805, 1988
5. Bishop JM: Molecular themes in oncogenesis. *Cell* 64:235–248, 1991
6. Marshall CJ: Tumor suppressor genes. *Cell* 64:313–326, 1991
7. Hollstein M, Sidransky D, Vogelstein B, Harris CC: p53 mutations in human cancers. *Science* 253:49–53, 1991
8. Lane DP: p53, guardian of the genome. *Nature* 358:15–16, 1992
9. Tadani G, Cerri A, Crosti L, Cattoretti G, Berti E: p53 and oncogene expression in psoriasis. *Acta Derm Venereol* 146:33–35, 1989
10. Finlay CA, Hinds PW, Tan T-H, Eliyahu D, Oren M, Levine AJ: Activating mutations for transforming by p53 produce a gene product that forms an hsc70-p53 complex with an altered half-life. *Mol Cell Biol* 8(2):531–539, 1988
11. Adnane J, Gaudray P, Simon MP, Simony-Lafontaine J, Jeanteur P, Theillet C: Proto-oncogene amplification and human breast tumor phenotype. *Oncogene* 4:1389–1395, 1989
12. Spinardi L, Mazars R, Theillet C: Protocols for an improved detection of point mutations by SSCP. *Nucl Acid Res* 14:1009, 1991
13. Molès J-P, Moyret C, Guillot B, Jeanteur P, Guillou J-J, Theillet C, Basset-Séguin N: p53 mutations in human epithelial skin cancers. *Oncogene* 8:583–588, 1993
14. Orita M, Iwahana H, Kanazawa H, Hayashi K, Sekiya T: Detection of polymorphisms of human DNA by gel electrophoresis as single-strand conformation polymorphisms. *Proc Natl Acad Sci USA* 86:2766–2770, 1989
15. Brash DE, Rudolph JA, Simon JA, Lin A, McKenna GJ, Baden HP, Halperin AJ, Ponten J: A role for sunlight in skin cancer: UV-induced p53 mutations in squamous cell carcinoma. *Proc Natl Acad Sci USA* 88:10124–10128, 1991
16. Pierceall WE, Mukhopadhyay T, Goldberg LH, Ananthaswamy HN: Mutations in the p53 tumor suppressor gene in human cutaneous squamous cell carcinomas. *Mol Carcinogen* 4:445–449, 1992
17. Caron de Fromental C, Soussi T: TP53 tumor suppressor gene: a model for investigating human mutagenesis. *Genes Chrom Cancer* 4:1–15, 1992
18. Soussi T, Caron de Fromental C, May P: Structural aspects of the p53 protein in relation to gene evolution. *Oncogene* 5:945–952, 1990
19. Horak E, Smith K, Bromley L, Lejeune S, Greenall M, Lane D, Harris AL: Mutant p53, EGF receptor and *c-erbB-2* expression in human breast cancer. *Oncogene* 6:2277–2284, 1991
20. Hall PA, McKee PH, du P, Menage H, Dover R, Lane DP: High level of p53 protein in UV-irradiated normal skin. *Oncogene* 8:203–204, 1993
21. Basset-Séguin N, Escot C, Molès J-P, Blanchard J-M, Keraï C, Guillou J-J: *C-FOS* and *C-JUN* proto-oncogene expression is decreased in psoriasis: an *in situ* quantitative analysis. *J Invest Dermatol* 97:672–678, 1991

ANNOUNCEMENT

A workshop on Photoimmunology will be held in Capocaccia, near Alghero, Sardinia, Italy, October 8–10, 1993. The workshop will take place during the summerschool, entitled Photoimmunology in Medicine.

Organizers of the Photoimmunology workshop are P. Bergstresser, Th. Dubbelman, and B.J. Vermeer.

The following topics will be discussed.

1. Introduction immunology of the skin.
2. Modulation of the immune system by UV light (antigen presentation, T-cell recognition, cytokine production, adhesion molecules).
3. Genetic polymorphism of UV-induced immune suppression.
4. Photoreceptor for UV-induced immune suppression.
5. Effect of UV light on infections (HIV, Herpes simplex).
6. Clinical relevance of photoimmunology (e.g., skin cancer in immune compromised host).
7. Therapeutic use of UV-induced immunosuppression (e.g., thrombocyte transfusion).
8. Immunologic aspects of photophoresis and photodynamic therapy.
9. Effect of sunscreen on photoimmunological aspects.

For registration contact B.J. Vermeer, Department of Dermatology, University Hospital, Leiden, P.O. Box 9600, 2300 RC Leiden, The Netherlands. Fax: 31 71 144348.